

EXPANDED PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES

—A NEW GIMMICK

In the recently held Chief Ministers' Conference at New Delhi, the Janata Government declared a scheme of so-called 'expanded' public distribution system which in effect means nothing more than increase in 'fair price' shops. The scheme, therefore, not only comes pitifully short of the tall promise of the Janata Government of a "national production cum distribution" scheme for about a dozen essential items of consumption but is also a new political gimmick with some sinister motive. There is reasonable ground for apprehension that this so-called progressive measure which does not touch even the fringe of people's real problem will be used as a cover for further imposition of heavy taxes in the coming Central Budget coming as it does on the eve of the Budget Session and particularly when a rumour as to the new impost of heavy taxation leaked in the press. Let alone the chief ministers of the bourgeois parties, even the chief ministers of the so-called Marxist parties have all endorsed this fraud on the people caring only to keep up a show of difference over choice of articles and or export of consumption goods.

The Janata Government has declared in the recently held Chief Ministers' Conference that from coming July, the public distribution of essential commodities will be expanded. It has been decided to expand the present network of 240,000 fair price shops, largely in urban areas to between 350,000 and 375,000 with the intention of covering rural areas. The commodities listed to be supplied make practically no difference from what are at present being supplied e.g. grains, edible oil, fuel and controlled cloth. The government has not even included pulses which show erratic behaviours both in availability as also prices over the years but is common man's protein in their daily diets; the government's excuse has been as usual that it is not sure of feeding the fair price shops with this article to ensure a regular supply to the people. To interpret this excuse correctly it means that the government has not been assured by the

big producers and dealers of steady supply of this article to the government and so the government leaves the common people to their mercy, yet this government so often speaks of its intention of defending the 'vulnerable' section of the people against the profiteering and black-marketing with consumption goods by the rich farmers and businessmen combine!

However, the government's mind is best explained by the Statesman which wrote editorially that it "was based on the premise that it was neither possible nor necessary to hold prices all along the line since large outlays for planned development were being made particularly in projects with a long gestation period. The effort therefore should be to pinpoint essential 'wage goods' which would be supplied to the 'vulnerable' sections of the population at reasonable prices".

(Statesman, January 11, '79)
Now a few words about the government's 'premises'.

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If this be the government's thinking that it is not possible to hold the price line nor is it necessary to do this on the plea that big projects that are being undertaken take long gestation period it only admits the failure of the capitalist economy other way round. For, development projects or no development projects particularly when this country has been passing through for long what is called 'plan holidays', it is not possible for the capitalist economy as such to stabilise the prices because its very motive force of production is maximisation of profits and its appropriation by a class, the capitalists—they inevitably bring anarchy in production as also its consequent reflection in prices. This is more so when capitalism as a world system is in the midst of unprecedented crisis, having lost relative stability of market. And so, under the law of monopoly capitalism which is working in this country, with the progressive decline in the purchasing power of the people i.e. further squeezing of market, the productive principle has become as it is elsewhere, less and less production and more

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Com. Nihar Mukherjee's Letter to Prime Minister on Cambodia

[Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, General Secretary of our Party SUCI demanding effective measures to be taken by the Government of India towards a just and quick settlement of the Cambodian crisis arising out of its armed invasion by Vietnamese forces wrote the following letter to the Prime Minister of India on 16th January last. We here publish the content of the same.—Ed. P. ERA]

Dear Prime Minister,

It is known to all that the Indian people, true to their glorious anti-imperialist tradition, have always felt not only deep concern for and expressed solidarity with the lofty cause of liberation struggle waged by the heroic people of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos who won independence and ultimately set

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Make All India Conference of UTUC (Lenin Sarani) A Grand Success

With the Sixteenth session of the All India United Trades Union Congress (Lenin Sarani) scheduled to be held at Patna from 16th to 18th February, '79 drawing closer day by day, the working people under the banner of UTUC (Lenin Sarani), spreading over the different States in India are getting more and more enthusiastic and are hectically engaged in carrying the message of their beloved organisation, 'UTUC (Lenin Sarani)' deep down to the toiling and oppressed people in every nook and corner of the country so as to make the conference a grand success. The message of the ensuing Conference as envisaged in the call given by Comrade Pritish Chanda, the General

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Sixteenth All India UTUC (Lenin Sarani) Conference at PATNA

Open Session—16th February '79

Guest-in-Chief—Comrade Nihar Mukherjee

Speakers : Comrades Pritish Chanda, Shankar Singh, Gian Singh Chowdhury, A. K. Pandey, Tapas Dutta, Fatick Ghosh, Prativa Mukherjee, Zainal Abedin M.L.A. (Assam) J. James, A. S. Bakshi, N. R. Singh and others.

Delegate Session—17th and 18th February '79

GANDHI MAIDAN

President—Comrade S. K. Pramanik

SRIKRISHNA MEMORIAL HALL

Iran—A Political Study

This time it was a national upheaval. The Iranian people desperately rose to break the walls of the big prison-house, their country was converted into by the Shah during his last continuous 35 years most savage and tyrannical rule at the cost of their toil and blood. The people of Iran are now in the crest of a revolutionary fervour after having achieved the first round of victory. The Shah is forced to flee the country, a moderate bourgeois government has assumed the power and assures democratic rights and freedom, the military machine and SAVAK—the notorious police system trained up by US pentagon stand humbled for the time being at the bidding of their masters US and other imperialist powers, whose stakes are high, faced with unexpected reverses, plan for a newer strategy. Ayatollah Khomeini, the Shia religious leader and a tremendous moral force among the people calls for abolition of monarchy and a new constitution for an Islamic republic; there seems to be differences within the bourgeois leadership over the issue. The people are in great expectation for a new and freer life but behind the scene the historic forces must be working. The bourgeoisie will strike deal with the imperialists and super powers for a bigger share in exploitation of the people with some show of keeping promises to them. The working class of Iran must also seize the moment to bring it to their favour to fulfil the unfinished tasks of democratic revolution fully and thoroughly as a first step towards the goal which cannot be other than scientific socialism in the era of imperialism and proletarian revolution. For this, they want a political leadership of their own which they sadly miss even now. There is, therefore, the danger of the historic opportunity, their own creation, slipping out of their hands to the national bourgeoisie.

The Iranian crisis is the most important political and economic event in the Middle East. In fact, even the Indian subcontinent cannot be free from the political repercussions of this great turmoil. For almost a year now, Iran seemed to have been without a civil governmental authority and every experiment of Shah to install either the government of Hossein Sadeghi, the former minister of Mossadegh Cabinet or the the last military government under general Azhari failed to stem the tide of people's anger and resistance. It is in fact significant that the military government had to step down following the massacre at Mashad and consequent high tempo of people's rebellion. Neither the hypocritic promises of the Shah to make the country the fifth industrial power by the end of the century nor the crack down of SAVAK and ugly demonstration of military teeth could cow down the people to submission. It is how the people react

when changes in history occur. It is also a historic truth which **Comrade Shibdas Ghosh**, the most revered founder General Secretary of our Party and an outstanding Marxist thinker of the era so often reminded us that it is the correct political leadership and the real political power of the people that matter, otherwise despite all the toils and blood, despite the high tide of revolutionary fervour released, people fail to seize the historic moment and the tragedy in history is enacted when the tremendous sacrifices and dedication of the masses are utilised by the bourgeoisie to consolidate their class position and deceive the masses. Such tragedies happened so many times in history and the people of India can very well testify to this fact of what they expected when they threw back a despotic rule of Emergency and of what has been the actual fate of their expectations two years hence. Let us therefore go into the happenings in Iran, avoiding the details but

only picking up the essential points necessary for our clear grasp of the political lesson that is yet to unfold to its full.

The heavy political-economic stakes of the imperialist powers and particularly of the USA in Iran

Ever since the present Shah, Reza Khan of Pahlavi dynasty betrayed the national aspiration by joining hands with Anglo-American interests to dash to the ground the dream of a nationalist leader Dr. Mossadegh in 1953 and came back to the throne after a CIA planned coup became successful, the Shah and the Anglo-American imperialist powers became one and the same to the people. Dr. Mossadegh, a liberal bourgeois leader had the limited objective of freeing the country's oil resources from the clutches of the imperialist powers and devote the same towards bourgeois democratic development of the country.

During the long 35 years' hated rule of Shah, none of the democratic aspiration of the Iranian people has been fulfilled. Counselling by his US State department advisers, the Shah brought some half-baked land reforms that only benefitted the rising bourgeoisie. Instead of giving a firm economic base with the help of tremendous oil resources, a military state equipped with most modern US British arms and a US Pentagon trained most savage Police system SAVAK has been built up. Iran became the dumping ground of sophisticated military hardwares of US-British military industries in particular. It will be obvious from some of the basic facts.

Together with Saudi Arabia, Iran has provided the largest developing market in the Middle East for the US and other western imperialist powers like Britain, West Germany and France along with Japan. After the oil price hike the export revenue of

Iran jumped from \$ 4.6 billion in 1973-74 to \$ 20 billion in the next year. Since then, the Shah was assuring the poor Iranians of a prosperous future of "becoming the fifth industrial power by the end of the century". But how he was doing that will be obvious from the fact that arms purchase contract with US firms in the last six years totalled \$ 19 billion a good portion of which is still in the pipeline and becomes a cause of concern for the military industries of the USA. About 45,000 US personnels are in Iran in different capacities from technicians project operators to military advisers and pure intelligence men of CIA. Next comes Britain. Ten thousand Britishers are also in Iran. Britain is the second biggest equipment supplier among which 1,500 chieftain tanks each worth about £ 450,000 and £ 400 million worth of Tracked Rapier aircraft and some 200 British companies have their offices in Iran. The West Germany which exported £ 828 million worth of machinery, machine tools, process plant and vehicles only in the first half of the last year. So although Iran is West Germany's single largest oil supplier West Germany has a trade surplus of as much as 500 million DM and Western German firms are installing two nuclear stations and expected order worth 12 to 13 billion DM.

The French and Japanese capitals are also warned about the fate of their million dollars contracts. So, in the name of a prosperous future, the Shah entered into billion dollar contracts for military hardwares and even installation of as many as 20 nuclear power stations in a country which has not yet gone through a full-fledged democratic land reforms and lack even a sound industrial base.

Besides being the hunting ground for US-British, Japanese and other West European finance capitals, Iran's present political turmoil creates concern to all of them because of their heavy dependence on

Iran for oil supply. About 12% of the Western Europe's oil requirements come from Iran, both US and West Germany draw heavily on Iranian oil and get balance their trade deficit by Iranian contracts, Israel draws 60% of its oil requirement from Iran.

Besides these two vital economic interests of exploiting Iranian oil resources both for domestic consumption as well as for giving a constant boost to the military industries, the US has the political interest of using the geo-political position of Iran in West Asia as a strong base against the Arab nationalist movement and the Soviet penetration. In fact because of this influence and control Iran has been alienated from the mainstream of Arab movement and the Palestinian struggle. Iran is also used as US base for intelligence equipment to monitor Soviet nuclear testing to verify whether it conforms to SALT II agreement, according to the admission of the US journalists.

Because of all this, the US has surely heavy stake in Iran and although caught napping at the sudden reverses, it is quickly trying to adjust to new changes. The US and other imperialist powers though face a set back but there is no reason to doubt that they and in particular US would write off this very valuable base in West Asia.

So, while the White House said that US had no intention of interfering in Iran, the American press reported that both the US national security council and the State department had drawn up plans to interfere in the Iranian situation. It is no longer a secret that there was difference in the US State department as to the policy framing between Brzezinski and Vance while the former was for using Iranian military for brutal suppression the latter was for a democratic show of transfer of power to moderate bourgeoisie and not to stake the whole for an individual, the Shah.

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Geo-political Reason and Iranian Oil Resources make IRAN A Playground for Hegemonistic Contention and Collusion

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In short, imperialists in general and US imperialists in particular are no lover of individuals as such, however much they have been in their service as can be seen in Vietnam and other places. They can write off the Shah but not so easily Iran.

That is why to firm up Iranian military although a US carrier task force has been ordered to shift from Subic Bay, the naval base in Philippines to the vicinity of the Persian Gulf to avert "possible Soviet move in Iran", the US State department spokesman, Mr. Hodding Carter has appealed to the Iranian military to respect "the countries constitutional processes" because "seizure of power by the military would inhibit an orderly and constructive approach to the establishment of stability in Iran". This US spokesman also told the US press on December 14, that the US was currently engaged in increasing its consular and political staff in its embassy in Teheran and the main task of this additional staff selected for their knowledge of Farsi was "to broaden the political contacts of US diplomats in Teheran". President Carter and Cyrus Vance had all along been counselling the Shah to stem the tide of peoples' resentment by some democratic reforms but it was too late. Since the recent flare up both the US diplomats were persuading the Shah not to hot up the situation any further but to go on 'vacation' and leave the matter whether the vacation will be short term or life-long to the people of Pentagon. So, US presence is very much there and it is trying utmost to cool off the situation for a new arrangement with the bourgeois leadership and save its interest. The Shah is on his way to US sojourn and from all the arrangements he has made about transfer of his fabulous wealth and formation of a Regency Council it is

obvious, he also does not think that a return to Iran may be possible in his life time.

The New Regime— Crack in the National Front

Mr. Shahpour Baktier, a moderate bourgeois leader, leader of the Iran Party and Deputy leader of the National Front, a Deputy minister of Mossadegh Cabinet having the history of undergoing long imprisonment was selected by the Shah to form a cabinet. A deal has been struck with this section of the National Front. While the National Front formed in August last year to lead the peoples' movement framed up three point charter which demanded abdication of the Shah, referendum for abolition of monarchy and fresh election to Parliament and restoration of democratic rights, Baktier seems to be content with the Shah leaving the country and installation of his ministry along with certain democratic measures. The other section represented by Dr Sanjabi, leader of the National Front and Ayatollah Khomeini, the exiled Shia Muslim religious leader who it seems has a tremendous moral influence over the Iranian people have denounced the Shahpour ministry as "illegal" and threatened non-cooperation. The Shahpour ministry is quickly on the move in order to gain the confidence of the people. It has secured vote of confidence in both houses of parliament, released political prisoners, withdrawn press censorship, accepted the demands of the striking oil workers, who played a pivotal role in this struggle—release of oil workers detained and withdrawal of military forces from the oil installations.

Forced by the popular demand Shahpour Baktier has declared in the parliament that Iran would cut oil supplies to South Africa and Israel and give recog-

nition to PLO and support the Palestinian people's efforts to secure their legitimate rights. He also at the same time mentioned about arrest of 190 armed Afghans Crossing the frontier hinting thereby Afghan Governments as also Soviet interference in Iran's internal affairs. The new Foreign Minister has also stated that the government has planned no change in Teheran's ties with Washington but would strive to improve relations with the Soviet Union.

The other section of the Nationalist Front represented by Front Leader Dr Sanjabi and Ayatollah Khomeini have not come to terms with Baktier ministry which they call 'illegal'. Khomeini has also accepted the bargain between the Iranian bourgeoisie and the Shah backed up principally by the US. The terms of the bargains are now clear while the bourgeois leadership demanded Shah's abdication as the first step for settlement, the Shah also insisted on a Regency Council and civil government to take over the charge before departing the soil. The Shah's terms have been honoured and even Khomeini's followers have allowed this modality for Shah's departure from the scene. But now the struggle enters the second stage between the two sections of the same bourgeois leadership. Khomeini says: that only the first stage of people's victory has been scored. They say, "Nothing has changed. The Shah has left, but the system is still there". Behind all this talks, what they demand boils down to two things—a referendum for a new constitution abolishing monarchy and establishing an Islamic republic and secondly, fresh election to the Parliament which they expect can give them a majority.

The National Front— Character of Leadership

It must be understood

that people are being led by the same Iranian bourgeoisie who have benefitted greatly from the Shah's moves towards modernisation. A bond of capitalist interest binds them with the imperialist powers looting the country and its people. This National Front, formed in August, last year, is nothing but a temporary marriage of convenience between religious zealots like Khomeini, having a deeper undertone of Islamic bond of fraternity with the Arab States and the Palestinian people as also a deep hatred against Israel on the one side and the moderate bourgeois leadership represented by Baktier with some sprinklings of socialist and pro-communist elements including the underground Tude Party following the revisionist Soviet leadership. So the leadership is in the hands of bourgeoisie having shades of differences among itself but on fundamental issues there will hardly be the difference. That is the reason why Khomeini-Sanjabi combination although taking a more militant posture against foreign domination is not against snapping ties with the imperialist powers but rather wants to bring a balancing factor in normalising relations with the Soviet union. Khomeini is not also against the various projects contracted and has only stated whatever is subversive must go. When the people are meting out punishment to SAVAK murderers, Khomeini cries halt lest it can give an alibi for military intervention but in the same breath he says the possibility of military intervention is no longer there. So whatever both the sections of the National Front are doing for political power struggle are within the ambit of basic bourgeois class interest. The present situation cannot possibly continue for long. Every sector of the economy has been crippled. Iran, the

second biggest exporter of oil after Saudi Arabia having an average daily capacity of 5 million barrels slumped down to half million barrels towards end of December and finally oil production was ground to a halt. Iran is going through oil rationing and even import of oil was attempted but faced difficulty. Khomeini's three men liaison committee with the oil workers have persuaded them to produce 6 lakh barrels, the base minimum for home consumption that too on the specific term that workers representatives would check and guard against any export of oil.

Because of this basic bourgeois character of the government and correlation of forces in Iran today, the bourgeois political analysts are hopefully expecting that Shahpour Baktier will work as a stabilizing factor and the vocal Iranian middle class and intellectuals may not like the extremist religious postures of the Ayatollah to their liking. And already there is a crack in the National Front while hectic preparations are going on to sort out gains between the bourgeois politicians as also for reprogramming of strategies by the US and other imperialist powers. In the midst of this din and bustle and political horse trading the Iranian working people must assert and hold fast to their basic demands and strike hard to win as much as they can in the given circumstances. Certain positive factors have definitely come to surface which they should dearly cherish and protect for their further advancement.

The Iranian people are therefore confronted with the problem of very much presence of the imperialist powers and more particularly of US imperialism for the reasons we have sorted out here. But not only this, because of her oil resources, as also geopolitical reasons, it is also

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Expanded Public Distribution of Essential Commodities

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and more profit per unit of production. This is the reason why we see the phenomenon of continuous decrease in purchasing power of the common people and consequent steady fall in their standard of living to appallingly low level and simultaneous steep rise in prices of goods.

So, the argument that it is not necessary to stabilise price line in view of big projects is nothing but a cynical disregard to working peoples' interest. Rather, if the argument is placed upside down to stand on legs then it becomes more important and urgent task to ensure regular supply of essential consumption goods at steady prices within the reach of people's purchasing power if economic development is to bear any meaning to the common people. In fact in any planned development that becomes the first charge of the government. Here, the capitalist government cynically observes that it is not necessary to stabilise the prices but when the toiling people exploited by the price manipulations of the capitalists organise to defend their minimum living standard, the coercive instruments of the state come heavily down on them and the government raises the hue cry that it is the workers' wage increase that creates the so-called wage-price spiral whereas in reality in a capitalist economy wages always remain far behind the price line and expropriation of the workers never ends. Devil's logic as it is, the government argues that it is necessary to stabilise price and the capitalists expropriate the workers but only the working people have no right to defend their real-earnings and living standard. This is capitalism.

But this does not certainly mean that even modicum of relief cannot be given to the people by a government as regards supply of essential con-

sumption goods within a capitalist economy. Some relief can be given even within the basic constraint of a capitalist economy as regards supply of essential consumption goods to the common people and thereby protect their living standard.

But to find out the right course in this direction, the real picture in our economy and more particularly as regards food-grains trade and trade in other essential consumption goods is to be taken into cognisance. In our country, taking advantage of government's inaction and the dire needs of the common people the anti-social and most unethical activities of hoarding and blackmarketing with food-grains and other essential consumption goods for minting easy and speculative profits have grown to a menacing proportion. A notorious chain of rich farmers, businessmen or traders along with armed groups of smugglers and rowdies paid by them has grown up in direct collusion and connivance of high police and administrative officials who get a share in the spoils. This has grown over the long years and the poison of this unethical and anti-social activity has permeated the society through and through so much so that frustrated and degenerated youths and section of common people have been drawn in the net and they have been growingly resorting to this unethical means of livelihood. To strike at the root of this social evil, this notorious chain is to be broken with political courage and determination backed up by popular movements. This can only be done if the government takes on its own hands all-out state trading both wholesale and retail in food-grains and other essential items of consumption. This will not only deprive the profiteers and blackmarketeers of speculative gains at the cost of people's miseries but will open up a large

All India Conference of UTUC (Lenin Sarani)

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Secretary of UTUC (Lenin Sarani) on the eve of the Conference rings their ears: 'Take the preparation of the Conference as a movement as against a ritual; the working people of our country are in a desperate need of a powerful organisation with correct leadership, to fulfil the historic tasks which devolves upon the UTUC (Lenin Sarani)' and it is this ringing call that drives them ever jubilantly with fighting determination to reach the remotest corner of the country.

Ours is a capitalist country which is passing through an unprecedented crisis as a part and parcel of third phase of intense general crisis in world capitalist market and being hard pressed in such a deepening crisis of capitalist economy whenever the working people in our country are trying to raise their heads against mounting onslaughts, they are faced with twin attacks—one from the brutal bourgeois state machine and the other from the social democratic treachery of bourgeois hirelings. Suffice it to say, at this hour of its crisis, crisis ridden capitalism requires for its survival not simply the point of bayonet but more the support and shrewd assistance of the forces of compromise between labour and capital—the social demo-

cratic parties and mass organisations affiliated to them. The working people from their bare experience is now learning the bitter political lesson that the change they so eagerly sought for through change of governments in a capitalist state has not come. Not only that; following the last polls, the present Janata regime at the Centre and other parties, including the CPI(M) at different states are no different than the erstwhile Congress in so far as oppressive and authoritarian dealing of the legitimate movements of the working class is concerned. Thus while the Janata Government at the Centre is trying to translate the desire of the ruling bourgeoisie through its industrial policy and various measures, the labour aristocracy of these trade

avenue of employment because hundreds of thousands of persons will be required to man this public procurement and distribution system. For more than two decades, our party SUCI alone has been consistently voicing this just demand of the people while not only the bourgeois parties but even the so-called leftist and Marxist parties like CPI(M), CPI and others have opposed this proposal on this or that excuse. The real reason for their opposition lies in their fear of antagonising the rural jotedars and businessmen whose support they very much count for parliamentary careerism.

The bourgeois ruling parties, the Congress in the past and the Janata Party now have taken recourse to a fiscal device of both robbing and deceiving the common

people. They have used the budgetary resources mostly collected through indirect taxation that means mulcting poor people's earnings to pay the prices demanded by the rich farmers and traders to procure food-grains and other items for their distribution through the government's 'fair price' shops. This is nothing other than robbing the common people's purchasing power through taxation, paying out of them to rich farmers and traders who always command the market prices. And all this has been done in the name of running the so-called fair price shops, the articles supplied by which are neither fair in prices nor in quality. The government has thus ensured the rich farmers and traders not only a steady market by itself becoming

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unions gives it the tacit and shrewd support and assistance just on the model of its counterparts in West European countries. As a part of this game, the government at the Centre sensing strong reaction of the working people for implementing Boothalingam Committee Report is frantically trying to bring wage freeze through the back door under the cover of 'income and wage policy'. Not only that; the Central Government has virtually denied wage settlements long overdue and is trying to foist 'set guideline' on wage negotiations. Wonder of wonders, this guideline was decided by the government with the help of the 'friendly' trade union bosses aiming at interfering in the freedom of negotiations and the trade union movement in general. In effect, the right to collective bargaining, the democratic right so far enjoyed by the working class is in jeopardy. The government has not stopped there; it has brought a new Industrial Relations Bill, draconian in nature, in the parliament, the object of which is to introduce for the first time administrative interference into the internal functioning of the trade unions and for virtual ban on strike. Unconditional withdrawal of the proposed strike on 28th June in the recent past in the public sector bodies and undertakings and the recent withdrawal of the indefinite Bank strike throughout the country on the backdrop of unique unity achieved amongst the entire bank employees, with the help and assistance of the trade union bosses of CITU, AITUC and INTUC respectively in particular and other trade unions in general, is an eye opener to all how the Janata Government is manipulating the support of the so-called big trade unions in exchange of distribution of privileges and patronages.

The great dividing line in the working class move-

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ON THE FLOOR OF THE ASSAM ASSEMBLY

[In the last Winter Session of the Assam Assembly, our MLAs took part in the debates on all the important issues that came up for discussion and played a distinct role on the floor of the Assembly. We cover here in brief a few of the most important issues.
—Ed. P. Era]

Gauhati University (Amendment) Bill

Opposing the Gauhati University (Amendment) Bill on 30th November, Comrade Jainal Abedin said that the previous Congress Government, in the interest of the bourgeoisie adopted the policy of curtailment of education in order to reduce the number of educated unemployed. For this, they invented many ways like enhancing the cost of education, restricting seats in the educational institutions, setting various restrictions on opening of new educational institutions, enhancing Tuition Fees etc. The common people, the educationists, the students have been conducting struggles against this for quite a long time. Being forced by people's movements the Janata Government has brought this Bill with the declared object of amending the misdeeds of the previous Congress Government, but strangely enough, the provision for bureaucratic control over the university administration has been retained.

Comrade Abedin further said that the previous Congress Government barred the opening of new pre-university colleges totally. The new Bill though admitted the necessity of opening new pre-university colleges but proposed to retain the provision of prior permission for that of the government just as the previous Congress Government kept a provision on the opening of new degree course colleges. Comrade Abedin said that the sole authority of giving permission to the opening of new colleges should lie with the university and not with the government. He further demanded that all the financial responsibility of these educational institutions must be borne by the government.

Comrade Abedin further said that the previous Congress Government most undemocratically tried to impose bureaucratic control of the government curbing the autonomy of the educational institutions and the universities. It was the responsibility of the Janata Government to remove all those undemocratic provisions when they talk so much about restoration of democracy. But instead, they too seek to retain the same bureaucratic control of the government through this provision of the Bill. This is definitely opposed to democratic norms and principles.

He demanded that the government should bear all financial responsibilities of education and should leave all other matters pertaining to education, educational reforms etc. to the democratically elected bodies of educational institutions.

Opposing the proposal of handing over the responsibility of holding the pre-university examinations to the Board of Higher Secondary Education Comrade Abedin said that such a change was not only unnecessary, but detrimental too. It should for all reasons, remain with the university as before.

It is worth mentioning here that while taking part in the debate the MLAs belonging to CPI(M) highly praised the above Bill.

Bill for reservation of jobs for scheduled caste and scheduled tribes

Taking part in the debate on the above Bill Comrade Abedin said: It is the policy of the bourgeoisie and bourgeois parties to keep the toiling people divided on the basis of caste-religion-language to perpetuate the capitalist exploitative system. He said that when 80 percent of the

common people of all sections irrespective of caste, religion or language were groaning under the grinding wheel of capitalist exploitation, it was improper to provide any special privilege to a particular section. True, under a specific circumstances, it was once necessary to provide special privileges but today when 80 percent of the people, irrespective of caste, religion or language was living in dire poverty and destitution if any privilege was to be provided, it should be provided to all economically backward people—economic condition ought to be the sole criterion for this. If this policy was followed then it would provide relief not only to the destitute people belonging to scheduled caste and scheduled tribes but to the poverty stricken people of other sections too.

It might be mentioned here that excepting RCPI no other leftist party took part in the debate on this bill.

Non-official motion for the enhancement of monthly allowance and travelling allowances of the MLAs

Taking part in the debate on 28th November on the above motion for enhancement of remuneration of the MLAs from Rs. 350/- to Rs. 600/- and travelling allowance from Rs. 200/- to Rs. 400/- with effect from 1st April 1978 Comrade Jainal Abedin and Comrade Nazrul Haque strongly opposed the said motion. They said that it would not be proper to equate the services of the Members of the Legislative Assembly with that of other employments. The services of the MLAs were mainly patriotic services to the nation. When the majority of the people of our country were living in dire poverty, much below poverty line then such a demand for enhancement of remuneration of the MLAs like in other services was unjustified. But travelling facilities might be

extended further to them. They have to make public contacts not only in their own constituencies but throughout the state. So to enable them to reach the people more and render their services to them the government, like many other states should introduce coupons for the MLAs for free travels in trains and buses and make arrangements for their lodging in different places of the state.

Harassment of Indian Citizens

Strongly protesting against the harassment of Indian citizens on suspicion that they were Bangladesh Nationals Comrade Nazrul Haque raised a few questions. Later, SUCI MLAs together with other opposition MLAs demanded time for discussion on the issue. The demand was accepted.

Comrade Haque said in clear terms that under no circumstances the Indian citizens should be harassed. He said that the undue harassment had caused widespread apprehension among the Indian citizens—communal harmony was in jeopardy. Citing quite a number of instances of illegal deportation of Indian citizens Comrade Haque demanded immediate redress. He accused that the government has conferred quasi-judicial power on the police in this matter and the authority to determine as to who was an Indian had been left on the police personnels. This was not only unjust but dangerous too. He demanded that the government should immediately work out a guiding principle in this regard. He also demanded that the government should forthwith withdraw the quasi-judicial power conferred on the police and declare the guiding principle that would be followed on the question of deportation of foreigners.

Bill for taking over the administration of the autonomous Karbi-Unglong Zilla Parishad

In the last Winter Session of the Assam

Assembly a Bill to regularise the Ordinance imposed sometime back for government's take-over of the autonomous Karbi-Unglong Zilla Parishad was brought. Participating in the debate on this Bill Comrade Jainal Abedin said that though the Janata Government quite often talks of restoration of democracy their activities proved just the reverse.

Strongly opposing the Bill Comrade Abedin said that the Karbi-Unglong Zilla Parishad was a democratically elected institution. Government's taking over of the administration in hot haste through the imposition of an Ordinance before determining as to whether the party running the Parishad had really lost its majority—was by no means compatible with democratic norms and principles. He demanded forthwith withdrawal of the Ordinance and immediate election of the Karbi-Unglong Zilla Parishad.

In reply to this demand the concerned minister assured the house that the election to the Parishad would be arranged within December 1978.

Bill to extend government's control over the Gauhati Municipality

In the last session of the Assam Assembly the government brought a Bill making an amendment to the Gauhati Municipal Act. It might be mentioned here that the previous Congress Government took over the administration of the Gauhati Municipality. The order of supersession was thrice renewed, each for one year period. This Bill brought by the Janata Government sought for an extension for another one year.

Taking part in the debate on this bill Comrade Nazrul Haque strongly protested against such supersession of an institution established and grown on democratic principles. It was thoroughly undemocratic.

Comrade Haque demanded immediate holding of election of the Gauhati Municipality.

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Diminishing Rate of Growth in Capitalist World

For the sick capitalist world, today, dwindling rate of growth, feverish spurt in prices, swelling number of unemployed, complete chaos in monetary mechanism and so on and so forth are the inevitable symptoms of uglier convulsions markedly noticeable inside the very economic system. The picture is the same for the economies of advanced capitalist countries as well as those capitalist countries like that of ours which are behind the former on the question of the stage of capitalist development—only they differ in degrees.

The 'dissappointing' industrial growth rate during 1977-78, as revealed in the latest issue of the Reserve Bank of India Bulletin, which while referring to the 'sluggishness' in industrial growth in the 1970-s, has said that the growth of industrial output was only about half of that recorded in the previous year, i.e. 1976-77. The recent statistics furnished by the Ministry of Industry, Government of India also clearly manifests a gradually declining growth rate of industrial production of the 'country. Facts show that in 1966, the average growth rate was round about 8% and in recent years this has come down to round about 5%. According to the said statistics, the last year ended up with a growth rate of 5.5%, which was just of what was recorded in 1976. The falling growth rate of even the giant imperialist-capitalist countries have also assumed the set pattern and discernible to any interested student of economics of present day capitalist world. If we take for our scrutiny the performances of the major western capitalist countries including Japan during the 'Seventies' it would appear that a distinct shift to lowering down of industrial output has dawned upon these countries right after Mid-'73 (April-May). Excepting Japan, who could somehow square up the deficits, all the other big imperialist-capitalist countries ended the year 1974 with minus figures in growth rates.

The bare experience shows that the dialectical law of historical develop-

ment asserts and re-asserts much to the utter frustration of the bourgeois economists, politicians and the arch revisionist clique. It would, therefore, be quite in the fitness of things to recall with reverence, in this context, what **Comrade Stalin**, the great leader of the International communist movement, after generalising on the experiences of intense crises of post-second world war world capitalist market observed while reflecting on the condition of production in capitalist countries in his celebrated book, "Economic Problems of Socialism in USSR" that "...expansion of production in these countries will proceed on a narrower basis since the volume of production in these countries will diminish" (p. 63-Ibid). The arch revisionist clique headed by Khrushchev in their over zealotry to find fault with **Comrade Stalin** committed a gross mistake in presuming what **Comrade Stalin** actually meant by volume of production was *overall* volume of production. Assuring that the said *overall* volume of production was not bound to drop in the capitalist countries, they went to the extent of claiming **Comrade Stalin's** observation as to be erroneous.

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, one of the greatest Marxist-Leninist thinkers of the era, thoroughly exposed the utter bankruptcy of these revisionist renegade clique who in their frantic and vain bid to find fault with **Comrade Stalin** failed to grasp the real significance of **Comrade Stalin's** contention and wilfully attempted to distort his

observation. In his famous article, "A few economic problems", published first in our theoretical Monthly Organ 'Socialist Unity' (Vol 3. New Series, Sept, 1962) and subsequently reprinted in Proletarian Era dated 15th August, 1975 which for ever will be remembered as an invaluable contribution to the treasure-house of Marxism-Leninism, **Comrade Shibdas Ghosh** with his brilliant scientific power of analysis, while elaborating **Comrade Stalin's** observation and to that extent developing it further, showed that, "...what he (meaning of course **Comrade Stalin**-Ed.P.Era.) really implied was that in the third phase of general crisis of world capitalism capitalism would fail to keep up the rate of growth of production which it could maintain even after the world wide monetary crisis of 1930. And as a general feature, rate of growth would gradually show a declining trend." He further added, "This of course does never presuppose that even temporary increase of production may not be noted in any branch of industry in a particular country even for a certain period of time, under the influence of temporary factors including the artificial stimulants. But these temporary factors including the artificial stimulants cannot continue to operate for all time to come. They are sure to exhaust one day and the rate of growth (not the quantum of production) is bound to show the downward trend."

"It was in this sense and to explain this general feature of present day capitalism that **Stalin** remarked that "the volume of production will diminish."

Now, turning to growth rate in 1976 in our country our economists and the plan makers may feel jubilant in as much as the rate of growth in 1976 was double that of the previous year, though a temporary rise in growth

rate, no doubt! But for that, the contention as enunciated in the foregoing observation does not prove to be wrong. For, we have already said earlier that **Comrade Shibdas Ghosh** beautifully elucidating the observation of **Comrade Stalin's** outstanding proposition had made it abundantly clear that probability of temporary rise of the industrial growth rate was possible in a particular country even for a certain period of time under the temporary factors including artificial stimulants. And what was this temporary factor that was responsible for relative 'high' growth rate in 1976—perhaps is clear to anybody. All of us know that it was the period of Emergency, when the fascistic oppressive measures were imposed upon the working people groaning under the wheel of the capitalist exploitative machine and the workers were forcibly squeezed out of their last drop of blood by thrusting fantastic work-load upon them so that the capitalists might continue to usurp the maximum rate of profit. The underlying reason of this sudden up-shot of growth rate in that particular condition thus created, therefore, ought to be traced in the fascist dictatorial political situation and not in the economic front. So what is being noted in reality is that the growth rate has been decelerating year after year, and the statistics furnished by the governmental source reveals that the average growth rate for the 8 years from 1970 to 1977 is less than 5%. Throughout the seventies, except that dark year 1976, there had been only two years 1970 and '72 when the growth rate has exceeded by a very small margin, the average of 5%. This gradual decline of the industrial growth rate has quite likely given birth to the apprehension even within the governmental circle, their economists and planners that "the seven-

ties may end with an average growth rate not higher than 50% of the sixties." (India to-day, Sept. 1).

The picture in the fields of energy production is also equally gloomy. Coal production has been practically stagnant since 1975, and even the increase since 1966 and upto 1975 has been only 50%. The output of power which averaged 15 percent a year during the decade 1956 to 1966 has since been not more than 8 percent a year which is less than 60 percent of the average of the previous decade. In fact the production of these two important energy sources have kept declining at such a precipitate rate year after year. The data further revealed that during the first five months of the last year, the output of some of the important big industries, namely cotton, fabrics, tea, jute, steel, automobiles, aluminium and copper declined by three to thirteen percent.

Moreover, facts will no doubt reveal a similar picture in the field of industrial production in the capitalist-imperialist world taken as a whole.

The industrial development of the capitalist-imperialist world recorded 'nil' in 1955, down by 2.5% in absolute term in 1958. A microscopic increase in growth rate—only by 2.5 percent and 2.7 percent were registered in 1967 and 1970, respectively. In 1971 it again came down to 2 percent.

The bourgeois economists and planners must not however be jubilant on this apparent increase of growth rate, though infinitesimal, in 1967 and 1970. Because if we have correctly grasped the teachings of **Comrade Shibdas Ghosh** then we would realise that such a temporary rise in the rate of industrial production may occur under the influence of temporary factors including different

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Diminishing Rate of Growth

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artificial stimulants as elaborated in detail by **Comrade Shibdas Ghosh** in his famous article that we have mentioned earlier. But these cannot continue to operate for all time to come. They are bound to exhaust one day. And when they cease to operate even the slight increase of production caused by these temporary factors is bound to diminish.

So, once again it confirms what **Comrade Stalin** observed about the industrial development in the capitalist countries in the post second world war period. In this year of birth of this great leader of the world proletariat, while paying tribute, we like to recall with reverence what **Comrade Shibdas Ghosh**, another

great leader of the world proletariat once observed regarding him and his contribution. **Comrade Ghosh** remarked:

"**Stalin's** understanding of Leninism is the understanding of all Communists of Marxism-Leninism. This understanding has brought the communist movement to its present stature. It will of course, be further enriched in the light of experience of newer problems and developments, but nevertheless, the basic understanding of Marxism-Leninism as established by **Stalin** will remain and guide the communists in the course of its further development and progress".

(On steps taken by CPSU against Stalin—March 1962.)

EXPANDED PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

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their biggest customer but also their super profits at the cost of steady erosion in common peoples' real earnings. The amount that is being annually pocketed by the rich farmers and traders by way of government subvention which is the other name of robbing the common people is simply staggering. The amount of subsidy only on two counts e.g. procurement price and fertiliser totals Rs. 921 crores in the current year and Rs. 4,600 crores in a five year period. This is besides other subventions like cheap credit from banks and electricity, the entire loss of which is borne by the common people. This is the way that a veritable fraud on the people is being perpetrated on the people by the successive bourgeois governments. And it will not be wonder if, on the plea of this so-called progressive measure announced at the Chief Ministers' Conference, more tax burdens come on the shoulder of the poor people through the coming Central Budget. Indications are already there.

In the background of all this, the role of the

'Left Front' Government and more specifically of CPI(M) is to be noted. They have endorsed the scheme at the Chief Ministers' Conference. It may be recalled that only last year when the food zone was lifted, CPI(M) and the West Bengal raised noises and even threatened a fight but before it was organised and released they retraced. This time, however they not only endorse the perfidy of the Janata Government at the Centre but tries to hood-wink the people by a show of difference. The State Food Minister says that they want inclusion of more items and that there should be ban on export of consumption goods. The Chief Minister hastens to make amend by saying that they are not for total ban but for care to be taken so that those do not fall short in supply in the home market. What have all these to do with the real question? Why they keep mum on the total fraud in the whole thing? Whom they are defending by contributing their part in misdirecting the peoples' attention from the real issue? Answers to all these will give clear indication to the role, this

Not Bourgeois or Islamic Republic—real emancipation of Iranian people lies in overthrow of Capitalism

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faced with the problem of hegemonistic contention between the superpower. It is already in the news that the Ayatollah is being wooed by both the superpowers. The Western imperialist powers as also the USA were originally not in favour of the religious leader not because they are no lovers of backward and obscurantist ideas. Political history says that their love for capital supersedes all other love. Their dislike was on the calculation that the Ayatollah will not be able to contain the growing awareness and assertion of the toiling people and the middle class intelligentsia who may turn more and more to revolutionary working class ideology. But now that they see to their dismay that the other superpower guided by hegemonistic ambition is discovering progressiveness in the Ayatollah's call for an Islamic republic and is openly giving support to a section of the National front they have also grown cautious and do not want to burn the bridge with this section too. Besides, the over-riding consideration in their mind might be the popular image of the religious leader and considerable support he draws from the Iranian masses. In sum, this hegemonistic contention which may also turn into collusion in a given situation is to be taken into serious count

party is playing. The working people and every patriotic individual will have to see through the bourgeois perfidy. They will have to organise themselves on the slogan of all out state trading in food and other essential items by monopoly procurement of all these articles and their regular supply at a price not dictated by the rich farmers and business gentry. This is the real slogan, the right direction to a pressing problem which our party alone has been consistently driving home to the people.

by the Iranian people who must strive to steer clear their movement of this danger. The country's destiny should be at the hands of the Iranian people, the direction of their movement for democratic reforms at this stage should therefore not only be kept free of any outside interference but its very success towards working class goal depends on this condition being fulfilled.

Positive Factors

Despite the basic limitation of the leadership, this national upheaval has brought to sharp relief the great heroism, courage, organising capabilities and above all a death-defying spirit of the Iranian working people. As a part of the international working class we cannot but take rejoice at this display of classic heroism of the Iranian workers, peasants, students, intellectuals and all patriotic elements. On behalf of the Indian working people we warmly congratulate them and convey our revolutionary greetings. We can neither forget nor forgive the heinous role, the Indian bourgeois government played when they handed over the patriotic Iranian students to SAVAK murderers. By this act of crime they put shame to the country. But today the same government extends greetings to the new Iranian Government. This is nothing, but the bond of capital's interest. The interest of Indian finance capital in Iran, the Iranian working people will surely understand.

Let us recount the heroic role played by the Iranian working people. The lead was given by the oil workers who struck a crippling blow, joined by the workers in Banks, telecommunications, transport other industries and farmers in the field. The students came out of colleges and universities to join this national upsurge. Lakhs of people organised mammoth demonstrations of their determined will to pull

down the regime of terror and oppression. Military tanks and bullets, the SAVAK murderous gangs could not quell the deep seated anger and hatred of the people that welled up waves after waves, days after days. It was an all-out struggle. The Iranian working people can very well realise that it is this mighty people's power, their organisations—the strike committees and the local organisations that sprang up that did what seemed before impossible. This dynamo of power cannot be allowed to be dismantled. It requires further improvement equipped with proletarian class consciousness for a harder battle to come.

Secondly, the Iranian working people must ensure for them fundamental democratic rights and liberties, rights to organisation and movements and full and thorough going democratic reforms in the fields of agriculture and industrial policies as also in the administrative-bureaucratic set up including the disbanding of the SAVAK murderous squads.

Thirdly, the country must be freed from collusion and contention of super powers for hegemonistic domination as also the presence and influence of imperialist power in the domestic sphere.

Fourthly, the commitment of the present government to join in the mainstream of Arab states' fight against US imperialism and Israel and for the rights of the Palestinian people must be consolidated and given concrete shape in order to bring a great change in the West Asian politics—particularly in the drift that started since the 1973 war down to Camp David Confabulations. Undoubtedly with the joining of the Iranian people with the Arab fraternity and the Palestinian cause, they would gain in strength. It is up to the Iranian working people to seize the time.

Stop Economic Blockade Against the Refugees

Calcutta, January 25 :

Strongly protesting against the decision of the 'Left Front' Government to create economic blockade against the refugees of the Marichjhapi, Com. Sukomal DasGupta, Secretary, West Bengal State Committee of our Party, SUCI has issued the following statement to the Press :

"We note with serious concern that the constituents of the 'Left Front' who in the past organised mass movements time and again against the conspiracy of the Congress Government to send the refugees to Dandakaranya, are, after saddled to power, not only following the very same policy of the Congress but have also adopted an out and out revengeful attitude towards the refugees.

"When the refugee problem, being the creation of a political decision like partition of India, deserves

justice and sympathetic consideration—it is really very sad that the 'Left Front' Government is trekking just an opposite path, pursuing a typical anti-refugee and anti-people policy letting loose police oppression and is breaking all records of the Congress in vindictiveness so much so that it has decided even to create an economic blockade against the refugees of Marichjhapi. Besides, when the refugees have brought about improvement of the local economy without any help from the government it is absolutely preposterous and ill-motivated to suggest that they are causing harm to the economy of the State.

"We strongly protest against this decision of the 'Left Front' Government and appeal to its constituents not to make it a prestige issue and to withdraw this decision immediately."

Comrade Nihar Mukherjee's Letter to Prime Minister

(Contd. from Page 1)

up Workers' State in their respective countries but have also stood firmly to uphold their sovereignty against imperialists, particularly US imperialist intrigue, interference and aggression.

The latest development of South East Asia, particularly the armed attack by Vietnam, being backed by and at the direct instigation of the revisionist leadership of the Soviet Union on Cambodia to overthrow the Government of this Workers' State tramples under the independence and sovereignty of this country and it cannot but be a matter of serious concern to the Indian people.

The Central Committee of our Party, sharing this common concern and reflecting the voice of our democratic minded people, urges the Government of India to take up the issue immediately, remaining free from the pressure of any imperialist or hegemonist superpower, and come forward to take effective measures so that :

- (1) The armed invasion on Cambodia be stopped immediately ;
- (2) All foreign troops be unconditionally withdrawn forthwith from Cambodia ; and
- (3) Independence and sovereignty of the Cambodian State be restored and all disputed issues be peacefully settled by the Cambodian people themselves without any external interference.

With regards,

Nihar Mukherjee
General Secretary
SUCI

Assam Assembly

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Assam Glass Industry

Fourteen workers including three women representing all the retrenched workers of the Assam Glass Industry went on continuous Hunger Strike from 20th November last in front of the Assembly House under the leadership of Assam Glass Workers' Union affiliated to UTUC (Lenin Sarani) demanding immediate opening of the Assam Glass Industry. The Assam Glass Industry, a Government of Assam undertaking was closed down sometime back.

In a call attention motion Comrade Jainal Abedin brought the issue before the members of the Assembly. The labour minister in his reply said that as the industry was running at a loss it was not possible for the government to open it. Comrade Abedin said that it was strange how the solitary glass Industry in the whole of North-East India with such a huge market could incur any loss. The utter corruption of the factory administration and their personal greed could only be responsible for such a state of affair. Moreover, when almost all the state governments under pressure of movements were taking over the closed down privately owned factories, there could be no logic behind Assam Government's closing down one of the very few factories run by it.

Under pressure of all the members of the opposition bench the Chief Ministers had to intercept and a committee of eleven member of the Assembly was formed to make arrangements for the opening of the factory.

It might be mentioned here that on request from the members of the opposition bench and under suggestion from all other central trade union organisations the workers of Assam Glass Industry temporarily called off their nine-day long continuous Hunger Strike.

RED SALUTE Comrade Shyam Singh Mahato

Comrade Shyam Singh Mahato, a veteran peasant leader of Orissa, expired on 7.1.79 at the age of 82. He was the Vice-President of the KKMS, Orissa State Committee. In his death Orissa lost a true mass leader. He organised people's movements against Maharaja of Mayurbhanj in his early youth. As a result, he was evicted from his land and home by the feudal ruler. Then he had settled at Sukinda in Cuttack District and later on after coming in contact with the thoughts of **Comrade Shibdas Ghosh**, the great leader of the proletariat, joined the SUCI and had been organising KKMS till the last day of his life.

ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF UTUC (LENIN SARANI)

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ment to-day, therefore, lies between the forces that UTUC (Lenin Sarani) represents in rallying the working people on the broadest platform of struggling unity against the capitalist onslaughts that are increasingly coming, with the ultimate object of overthrowing the hated capitalist class rule and the forces who are defending it by their crafty deals with and assistance to the bourgeoisie.

UTUC (Lenin Sarani) carries great revolutionary thoughts and teachings of **Comrade Shibdas Ghosh** one of the founder architects and former President of this organisation, the great leader of the proletariat and an outstanding Marxist-Leninist thinker and philosopher of this era.

It is the ringing call of **Comrade Ghosh** to the working class of our country not to arrest their march in economism-opportunism which is the other name of trade union struggles conducted by the revisionist big trade unions and which is eating into the very vitals of the struggle of the working class, but to place, instead, the objective of transforming their trade union organisation as the 'school of communism', vis-a-vis to use their day-to-day

struggle as means for developing their alternative political power by which alone, they can overthrow this exploitative capitalist order.

Comrade Ghosh has time and again reminded the working class of the revolutionary lesson that the proletariats who win their emancipation are not those who remain prisoners to bourgeois vile culture, self-seeking mentality and rustic habits but are those who, not in slogan shoutings but in their personal behaviours and life-style, in ethical-moral standard, in cultural tone and taste have acquired actually higher and nobler proletarian ideology and culture.

Can we afford to fail to be the standard bearers of this revolutionary message bequeathed to us by the great departed leader and teacher of the Indian proletariat ?

No, certainly not !

For this new dawn to behold, the clarion call of the UTUC (Lenin Sarani) to the toiling millions in fields, factories, offices and establishments : Rally behind the struggling banner of UTUC (Lenin Sarani). Extend all kinds of help and support, on this momentous occasion, toward the all round success of the coming 16th All India Conference of UTUC (Lenin Sarani)!

Editor-in-Chief—**NIHAR MUKHERJEE**